





UNION POSTALE
UNIVERSELLE

COUPON-RÉPONSE
INTERNATIONAL

C 22

Ce coupon est échangeable dans tous les pays de l'Union postale universelle contre un ou plusieurs timbres-poste représentant l'affranchissement minimal d'une lettre ordinaire, expédiée à l'étranger par voie de surface.

<p>Empreinte de contrôle du pays d'origine (date facultative)</p> 	<p>Prix de vente (indication facultative)</p> <p>13p</p> <p>JE</p>	<p>Timbre du bureau qui effectue l'échange</p> 
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Collect an Entire Topic

Jack Brandt (LM14)

Recently I noted in the *Reply Coupon Collector* (Vol. 37, #1) a mention of a perfin potential. Universal Postal Union Article 199, Section 2, subsection a states:

1. International reply coupons shall conform to the annexed specimen C 22. They shall be printed on paper bearing as a watermark the initials UPU in large letters, under arrangements made by the International Bureau, which shall supply them to administrations together with a delivery bill in the form of the annexed C 24, prepared in duplicate. After verification the administration of destination shall return one copy duly signed to the International Bureau.

2. Each administration shall have the option:

- a. of giving the reply coupons a **distinctive perforation** provided it does not detract from the legibility

- b. of the text or hamper the checking of their authenticity;
- c. of indicating the selling price on the reply coupons by a printing process or of asking the International Bureau for this price to be indicated at the time of printing;
- c. of indicating the name of the country by means of a printing process or a controlled imprint or of asking the International Bureau for this name to be indicated at the time indicated.

Bold added for emphasis. IRC are now the same for all UPU members.

I have had an IRC with the perfin JE (for Jersey) for some years, but had not realized that it was a recognized practice to perforate them. I wrote to Dr. Allan Hauck, who is editor of the above mentioned publication, and he informed me that Jersey was the only postal administration to perforate IRC's.

So, if you can get one of these, you have the complete topic.